

# THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS



TRUMPETERS OF A FRENCH REGIMENT.

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# THE Illustrated London News

*of MARCH 18 contains illustrations of—*

BRITISH AEROPLANES DROPPING BOMBS ON  
A SENUSSI CAMEL CONVOY.

THE COSSACK'S HAND "SEARCHLIGHT."

FRENCH CONVOYS ON THE VERDUN ROAD  
AT NIGHT.

IN THE PERSIAN GULF.

GENERAL PÉTAINE, DEFENDER OF VERDUN.

"THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF": A REMARK-  
ABLE PAINTING BY A. C. MICHAEL.

THE GREAT BATTLE OF VERDUN: PHOTO-  
GRAPHS.

VERDUN IN THE DAYS OF PEACE.

FAMOUS PICTURES SOLD.

A "MEDIÆVAL" SCENE IN PARIS.

A FURNACE AT WORK PREPARING STEEL  
FOR A BIG GUN.

FRENCH ROADS "BARRED."

GABRIELE D'ANNUNZIO AS AIRMAN. Etc., Etc.

The next issue of "The Illustrated London News" will be of equal interest.

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Price 12/9



CLOSE-FITTING RIBBON HAT (*as sketch*), underlined with contrasting colours. In tagel straw, trimmed with piquet of flowers.  
Price 11/9



BROWN SILK HAT (*as sketch*), turned up at back, pretty curve in front, wreath of flowers round crown, finished with dainty ribbon bow.  
Price 21/9



BLACK TAFFETA HAT (*as sketch*), with kilted edge, slightly turned up at back, trimmed with wreath of flowers.  
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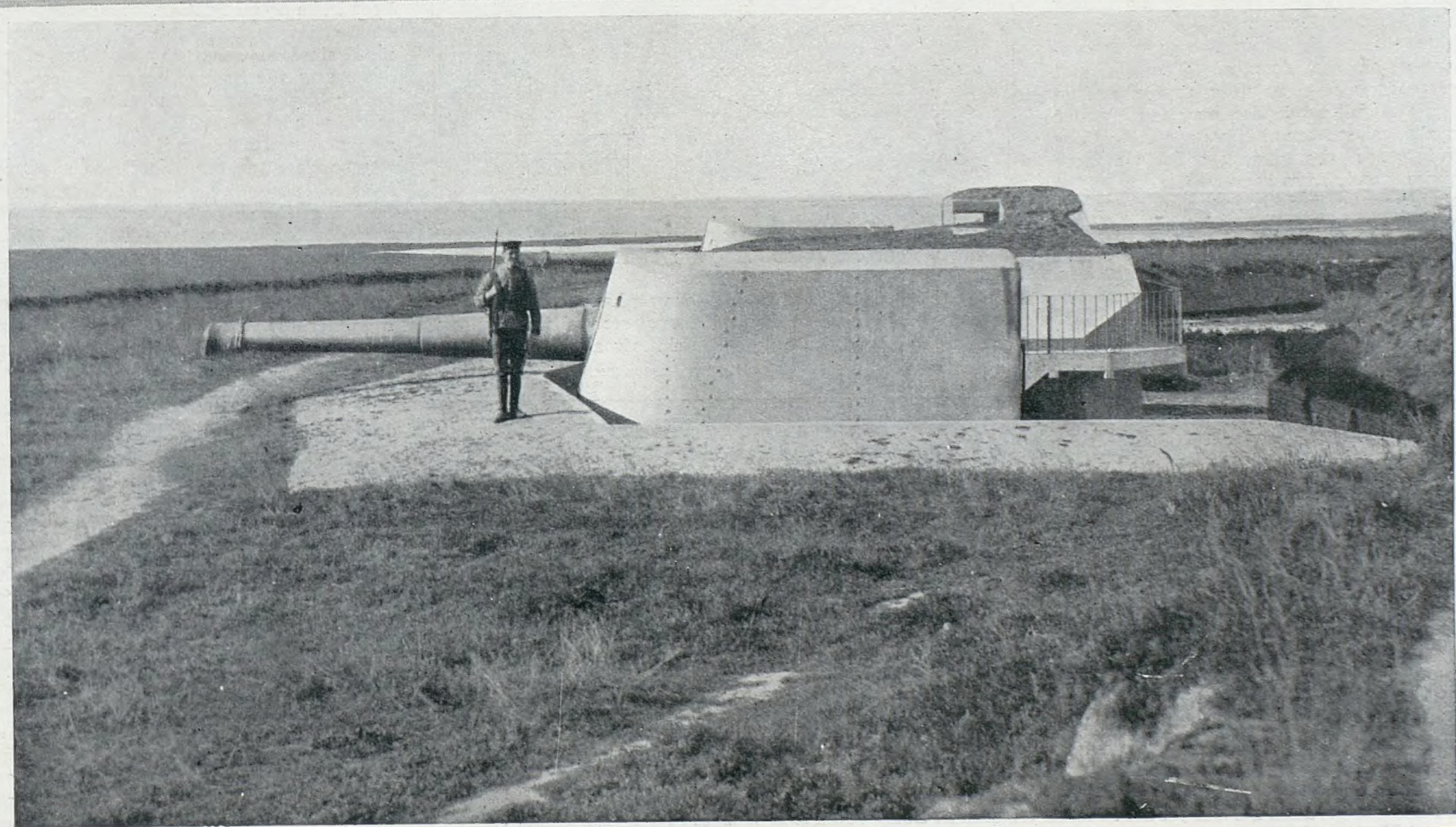
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# The Illustrated War News.



AT A GREEK FORT MANNED BY BRITISH TROOPS: A BRITISH SOLDIER ON SENTRY DUTY AT FORT TUZLA.

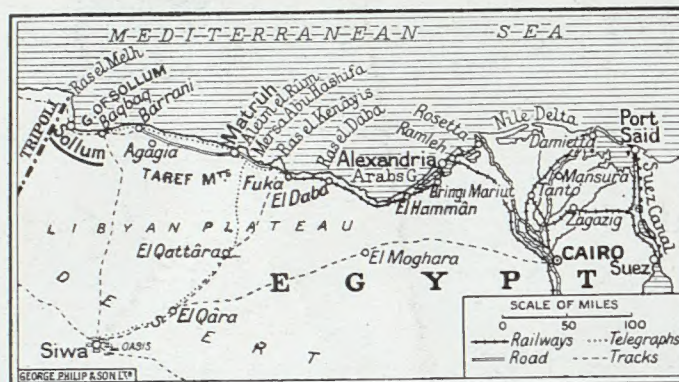
*Photo. by Topral.*



## THE GREAT WAR.

THE attack on Verdun has not lost its obstinacy, though it appears to have lost its soul. As the weeks go on, the spirit of the attacks seems to be taking on a marked degeneracy—a degeneracy quite as remarkable as the growing confidence of the defence. The old and tremendous ferocity may revive, and a battle of full proportion may develop, but in the general trend there are indications of fatigue: the lulls have become more marked, and, from reading the Berlin not less than the Paris communiqués, we get an impression that the assaults themselves, when they are launched, have lost much of their primary fire and élan. Moreover, the French, in addition to their serenity of defence, have also found it possible to make counter-attacks on a largish scale, especially west of the Meuse, and have thus made those victories which seemed so definite in German despatches merely equivocal in actual fact.

The line of the battle has followed old tendencies, and has, indeed, showed signs of narrowing down to two fronts only. Most of the fighting has been taking place west of the Meuse, on the Béthincourt-Mort

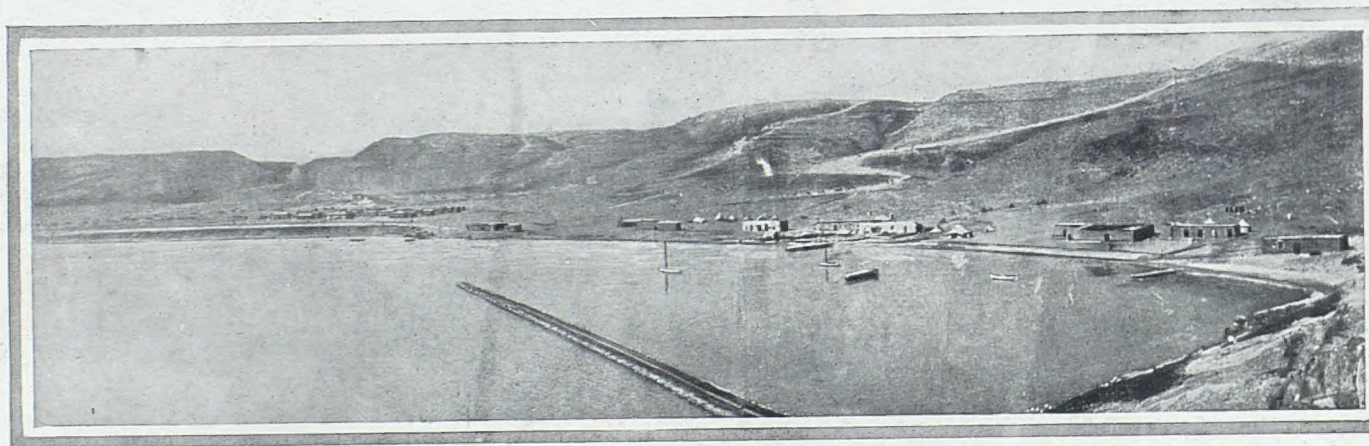


THE SUPPRESSION OF THE REBELLION IN WESTERN EGYPT: THE SCENE OF THE VICTORY AT AGAGIA AND THE REOCCUPATION OF SOLLUM.

enemy have been consistently heavy. By the end of last week the Germans west of the Meuse had carried some works south of Béthincourt, on the road leading from that village to Chattancourt, and, though they

had been turned out of the most important of these, they still held a footing. From this advantage they attacked once more on Wednesday, and made some advances between Béthincourt and Cumières, and towards—and, perhaps, on to

[Continued overleaf.]



CLEARING THE WESTERN EGYPT BORDER: SOLLUM, THE FRONTIER OUTPOST PORT REOCCUPIED BY GENERAL PEYTON.

Sollum is a coast port and the frontier outpost on the extreme western border of Egypt. The Egyptian garrison evacuated Sollum last December, but on March 14 the Western Egypt Field Force drove the enemy out with loss of prisoners, machine-guns, and three field-pieces.—[Photo. by Illustrations Bureau.]





ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT WARLEY: THE KING, THE QUEEN, AND THE GALLANT IRISH GUARDS.

The simplicity of the inspection of the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion of the Irish Guards at Warley Barracks, on Shamrock Day, by the King; the decoration of an officer and four men with the Distinguished Service Order and Distinguished Conduct Medal, and the presentation, by H.M. the Queen, of sprigs of shamrock, sent by H.M. Queen Alexandra, to officers and men of the battalion, lent the occasion much

dignity. The Queen gave shamrock to Mr. John Redmond, who was on the platform. Many men present had been at the front, and not a few had suffered there for the Empire. Our photograph shows the King and Queen, Mr. John Redmond, Sir Francis Lloyd, Lord Kitchener, and Princess Mary.—[Official Photograph issued by the Press Bureau, and distributed by the Sport and General Press Agency, Ltd.]



part of—the Mort Homme Hill. The gains were small enough, and the losses so heavy that the French had reason to congratulate themselves on the day's fighting. The Mort Homme is, perhaps, the main front of a heavy scheme of defence in this region; it is immensely strong, and therefore immensely advantageous. Through the several days that followed—with some curiously slack lulls—attacks were pushed forward with some strength. These were broken—indeed, some of the ground captured was won back by the French in spirited bayonet and grenade fighting. On Thursday the attack particularised itself by its strength. Assaults in waves were driven at the hill, with a strong bombardment supporting. The movement was shattered by the French, and so badly shattered that the attackers were compelled to fall back towards the Bois des Corbeaux. Nevertheless, the German communiqué once more outstripped the assault—the conquest of the Mort Homme was claimed. The French exposed this undue optimism at once, stating that the Germans, holding the lower and less important slopes of the hill, were imagining that they held the main position. They appeared to be deliberately confusing Hill 265, which they held, with Hill 295 (Mort Homme), which they did not hold. A small numerical point of this sort apparently does not trouble the Germans, though if this sort of victorious report continues, the French will have to inaugurate a Ministry of Enemy Communiqué Correction.

The French line west of the Meuse—as defined by themselves—runs from Béthincourt along the heights of Mort Homme, the southern fringe of the wood of Cumières to the village of the same name. The salient, therefore, has been blunted, but it has not yet been destroyed, and to a certain extent the French artillery can still enfilade the Germans east of the Meuse. East of the Meuse there



*This 9d. Plate 5. St. Britain stamp was taken from my collection and given to the National Philatelic War Funds Auction in September, 1915.*  
*George R. J.*

*Photo. by L.N.A.*

PRESENTED BY THE KING, FOR THE RED CROSS SALE: A STAMP TREASURE SOLD FOR OVER £500.

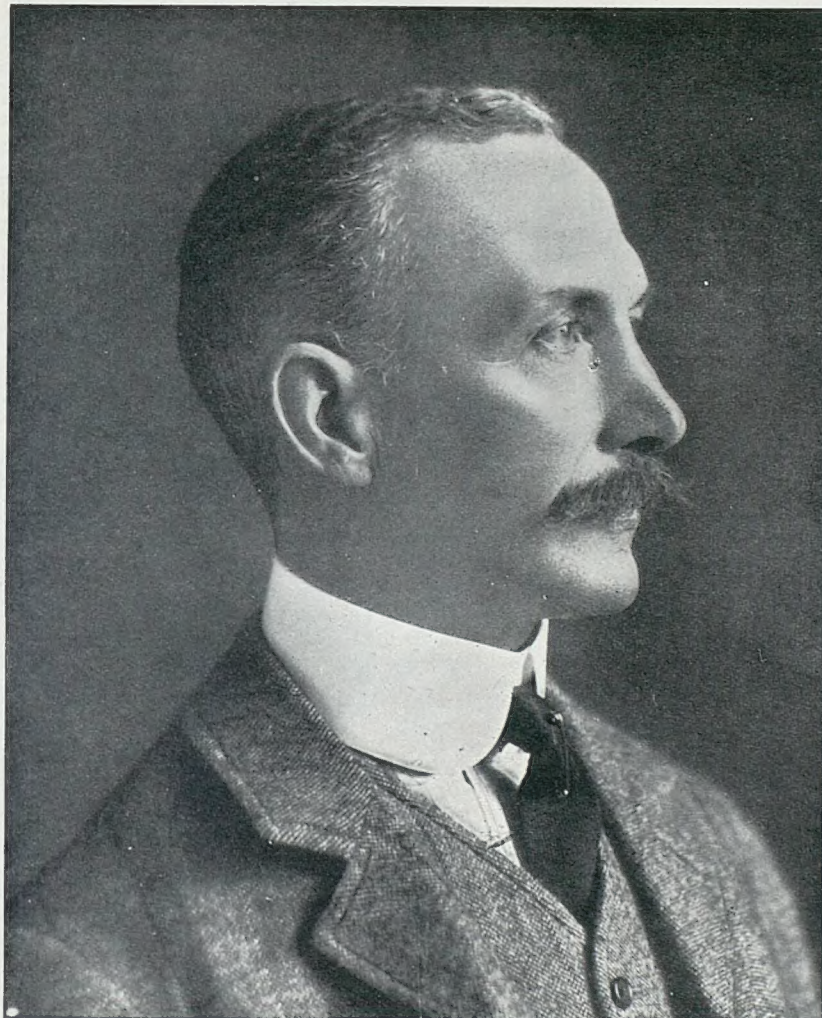
The King's Stamp, presented specially for the benefit of the Red Cross Fund by his Majesty, as inscribed above, was sold at the National Philatelic War Fund's auction for the Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John. The bidding rapidly reached £280, when the stamp fell to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. Put up again by them, as a patriotic act, the stamp was finally sold for £525, a sum representing nearly one-third of the day's total of £1670.

has been a determined effort to drive back the French line to the extreme east of this northern front. Vaux being the most likely point for deployment and attack, the attempts were made against the village and fort. Again, there had been a lull of nearly a week, and, again, it was as late as Friday when the assaults were begun. Five successive attacks were manœuvred—two against the village of Vaux; two against the slopes of the ridge crowned by the fort; and one that attempted to debouch out of a sunken road to the south-east of the village. All these movements came directly under the fire of the French rifles and batteries, and all were shattered before they could be effective, the casualties being terrible.

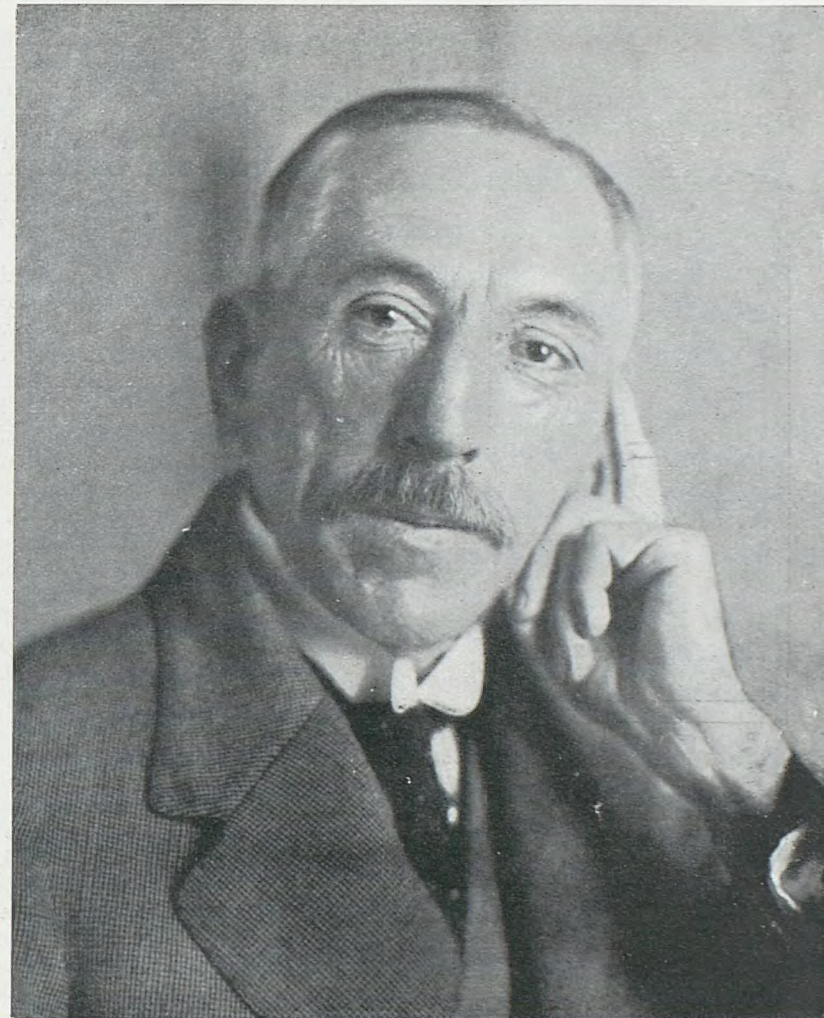
The narrowing of these attacks to such definite and comparatively small fronts is part of the reason for French confidence as well as the whole reason for the German losses. The front to which the defenders retired on Feb. 28 is not merely one of enormous strength in the mere tactical line of its defence; but it also gives the enemy the fewest routes for their offensive movement. The ridges that run from the Meuse to Poivre Hill and Douaumont give the bleakest possible terrain for any attack to cross, the line of approach being searched with ease by guns and trench-fire. At Vaux approach is made through ravines, and the road, though destructive to life, is easier. The strength of the French defence, then, has forced the enemy to this line of advance, and it need not be said that the French thoroughly appreciate these facts. They have prepared to meet any such attack when it comes into the open in the most determined way. Something of the same thing holds good of the other zone of activity. To the west of the Meuse the country is difficult and wooded. The ridges are overawed by the summit of Mort Homme, and though the Germans have obtained a foothold on the lesser heights, their

*[Continued overleaf.]*





ON A SPECIAL MUNITIONS MISSION OVERSEAS: BRIGADIER-GENERAL F. F. MINCHIN.  
At the request of the Minister of Munitions, Brigadier-General F. F. Minchin has undertaken a special mission overseas. Until General Minchin's return, temporary charge of the administration of the Inspection Department will be undertaken by Sir Sothern Holland, from the Explosives Supply Department of the Ministry. Sir Sothern has held important appointments in Cape Colony.—[Photo. by Elliott and Fry.]



AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER, AND PRIVY COUNCILLOR: THE RIGHT HON. W. M. HUGHES.  
The Prime Minister of Australia has been sworn of His Majesty's Privy Council. Mr. Hughes says of the Imperial ideal: "Quite apart from the idea of a self-contained Empire, there is the idea of . . . the British Empire as an organised Empire; organised . . . for national defence, for the preservation of the world's peace. . . . That is a noble ideal."—[Photo. by Vandyk.]



positions can be swept by fire. The lie of the ground forces them, also, to attack directly this most determined hill, so that whatever the result of their endeavour, it will always remain extremely costly. Again, then, it must be pointed out that though the enemy has won advances, the only effect has been to manœuvre the French into the best possible positions for breaking attacks.



GRAND ADMIRAL TIRPITZ'S SUCCESSOR IN THE GERMAN NAVY: ADMIRAL CAPELLE.

Rear-Admiral Edward Capelle, who is announced as Grand Admiral Tirpitz's successor as administrative chief of the German Navy, has been Admiral Tirpitz's factotum since 1896. He was appointed Permanent Under-Secretary of the German Admiralty in 1913. He is said to hold identical views on submarine warfare as his predecessor.

[Photo. by E.N.A.]

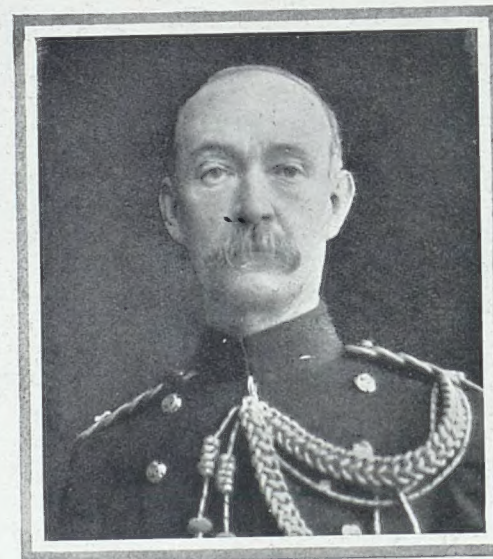
lently. On Saturday twenty-nine pursuing flights were made, in which thirty-two actions were fought over and about Verdun. One Fokker was thought to be seriously damaged, and the German reconnoitring flights were intimidated. Groups of 'planes also made bombing attacks on important junctions. Seventeen machines attacked the railway at Conflans, and then attacked that at Metz. Another air squadron dropped bombs on the aerodrome of Dieuze and the station at Arnville. At all places fires

An interesting, and perhaps happy, point in the great battle at the present moment is what seems a growing spirit of retaliation on the part of the French. They have not merely driven sharp counter-attacks at their foes on the various portions of their front, but they are showing vigour in other ways, particularly in their gunnery and flying work. Long-range artillery has been doing well against the Germans north-east of St. Mihiel; heavy and successful fire has been kept up in the Woëvre; and west of the Meuse the German trenches on Hill 265 and in the Bois des Corbeaux have been bombarded without appreciable reply. At the same time, the French aviators have been flying excel-

and heavy explosions were observed. Apart from the Verdun sector, the front has not generally been heavily engaged. On Wednesday the Germans tried again to penetrate further into the position at Ville-aux-Bois, but their attempt was less happy for them than that made here at the end of last week. An assault made on the French works in the Vosges, near Burnhaupt, and another in Lorraine, in the Thierville region, were equally fruitless, though the enemy did, in the latter case, succeed in getting a footing before being turned out. Some minor French attacks were more successful. On Tuesday a night attack took our Ally into the enemy works in the Bois le Prêtre, and brought him away with twenty prisoners before the Germans could retaliate; and on Friday the same thing happened in the Bois de Mort-Mare, south of Pont-à-Mousson. In these small night episodes the nimbleness of the Allies is proving extraordinarily discomfiting to the enemy.

This week has seen quite a lot of genial minor fighting in practically every sphere of hostilities. It is not merely that the Russians have been doing quite well again in the Caucasian theatre, but the British have asserted themselves to some purpose in Egypt, in Arabia, and, most particularly, in East Africa. In the latter place the plans have been laid well, time has been taken, and the blows—or the first of them—have consequently been of decisive nature. General Smuts has acted swiftly and finely. On March 11 a force moving from Taveta attacked the Germans in their strong natural position on the Kitovo Hills, and, after a great fight, forced the defences. Meanwhile, a

[Continued overleaf.]



THE LATE DIRECTOR OF SUPPLIES AND TRANSPORT AT THE WAR OFFICE: MAJOR-GENERAL LONG, WHO HAS RESIGNED.

Major-General S. S. Long resigned his post as Director of Supplies and Transport on March 10. He held the position since 1913, and was previously Assistant-Director of Supplies. He served on the Staff in the South African War.—[Photo. by H. Waller Barnett.]

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HOW THE ENEMY LIGHT UP THE BATTLEFIELD: SPECIALLY BRILLIANT ROCKETS BEING SENT UP DURING A NIGHT ATTACK.

For years before the war, it was held by most military authorities in Europe that, owing to the introduction of magazine-rifles, machine-guns, and rapid-firing artillery, daylight battles would be impossible in future, as they would mean wholesale slaughter in crossing the fire-zone. Night attacks, however, are little less dangerous. The development of illuminants of exceptional power has altered previously con-

ceived battlefield conditions. Their use renders a battlefield, for practical purposes, as visible after dark as in daylight. Rockets of intense brilliancy, and star and parachute-light shells, such as are shown going up in the illustration, disclosing everything within their range, are the illuminants principally used by the enemy in all their night attacks.



mounted brigade had worked its way into the foot-hills north-east of Kilimanjaro, and proceeded to clear the country of German troops who had already been cut off from the main body by the rapid British advance. It is hoped that the retreat of these enemy forces will be blocked to the west. Finally, a third column, under command of Major-General J. M. Stewart, appeared due west of the Kitovo Hills and struck at the Moshi-Arusha road—that is, to the rear of the main German force. The result was that the enemy retreated southwards towards the Usambara-Tunga Railway as rapidly as possible, Moshi itself being occupied almost immediately.

The fighting in Egypt has proved to be a particularly stirring affair, and has brought General Peyton's three weeks' campaign against the Senussi to a brilliant close. The last of the hostile camps—at Sollum, on the Tripoli border—was taken in dashing manner, and the Arabs scattered and broken. This was carried out by an armoured-car section on March 14, the command being in the hands of the Duke of Westminster. The cars made for the main camp at a speed of forty miles an hour, passing flying Arabs on horse and camel as they went. The British machine-guns put the artillerymen out of action at once, dashed straight into the camp, scattered the defenders, and pursued them for a number of miles. The crews of

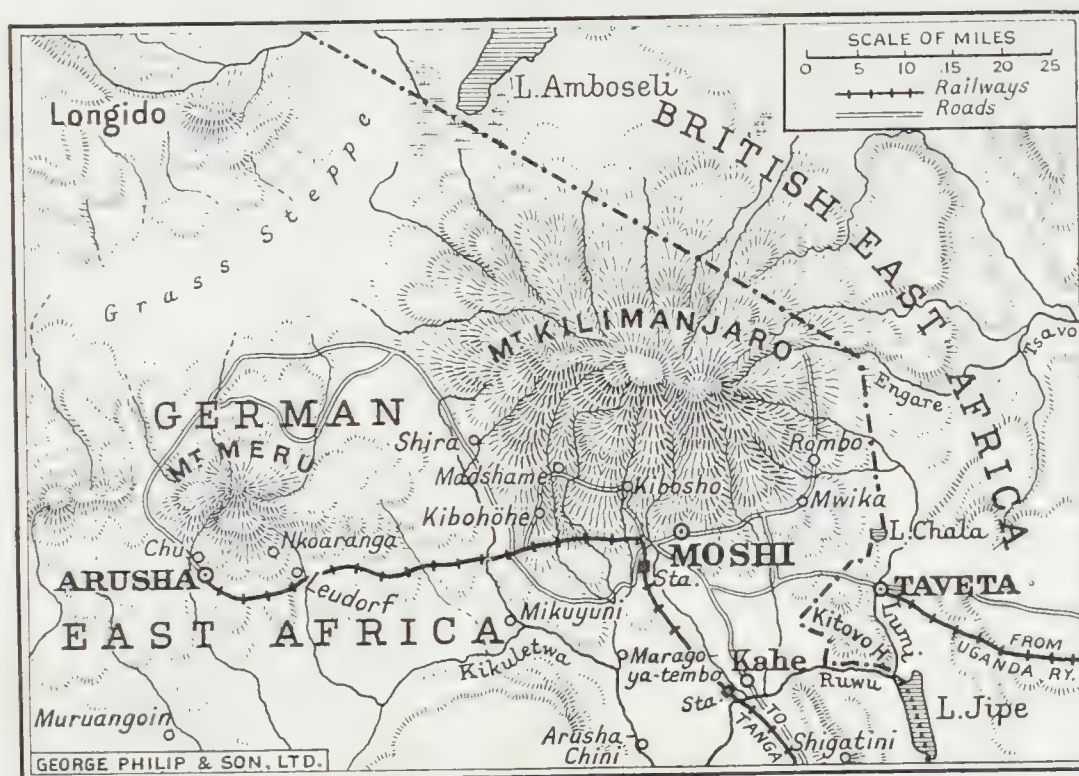
British ships taken on the coast were rescued, and the remnants of the hostile force dispersed with evident finality. The fight at Aden was a smaller affair. Here a Turkish force led by three German officers attacked the British outpost at Imrad, ten miles from Aden, was repulsed and pursued for four miles. In the Caucasus the Russians have made

good another striking advance: apart from pushing forward along the coast to the River Kalo-potamus, thirty-five miles from Trebizond, they have advanced sixty miles west of Erzerum, and, by capturing Mamakhatun, have covered half the distance to Erzincan, the depôt of the Fourth Army Corps and the next place of military importance in this route.

The sinking of the Dutch liners the *Tubantia* and the *Palembang* has not merely drawn attention to the U-boat war and its futility, but to its meaning for neutrals. The *Tubantia* was the crack vessel of the Royal Holland Lloyd, and it was sunk off the Noord Hinder Light-ship on March 16 while outward bound to South America. It is now understood that she was torpedoed by a German submarine, and, though practically all her passengers and crew escaped, four people

are said to be missing. The act, which, like the sinking of the *Palembang*, appears to be supremely senseless, has irritated the neutrals—the Dutch more than others naturally—to a grave degree. W. DOUGLAS NEWTON.

LONDON: MARCH 20, 1916.



WHERE GENERAL SMUTS DEFEATED THE GERMANS IN EAST AFRICA: THE DISTRICT ROUND MT. KILIMANJARO, SHOWING TAVETA AND MOSHI (CAPTURED) THE KITOVO HILLS, AND LONGIDO, WHENCE A MOUNTED COLUMN TOOK THE ENEMY IN THE REAR.





"FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA": A WAR-TIME SERVICE IN A DOCKYARD CHURCH.

It has been said, with truth, that the Bible is so human, as well as divine, in its inspiration that there is no condition, almost no incident, in daily life for which an apt quotation could not be found in its pages. In a minor degree the same might be said of our hymnology, and our photograph illustrates this truth in touching fashion. It is the practice at various dockyard churches that on every Sunday

the crews of ships which do not carry a chaplain shall attend the Dockyard Church. We show such a service in progress during the singing of the hymn "For those in peril on the sea." The reverent congregation is surrounded by the monuments of fallen naval heroes, which lend a very special significance to the service.—[Photo. by Newspaper Illustrations, Ltd.]





**DURING THE ADVANCE WHICH LED TO OUR SUCCESS NEAR KILIMANJARO: INCIDENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN IN EAST AFRICA.**

The recent successful attack by the forces under Lieut.-General Smuts on the Kitovo hills and foothills north-east of Mt. Kilimanjaro was a development of a campaign that has long been in progress in East Africa. Our photographs were taken by a British officer serving with the Indian Expeditionary Force there. He describes them as follows: (1) Building my grass house at Maungu. My tent is alongside.

Just as it was completed, I had to leave Maungu, and the Post Office took it over; (2) A field-telephone exchange in the bush; (3) Quinine parade; (4) A British officer examining a motor-trolley. Maungu is a station on the Uganda Railway between Mombasa and Voi and nearer to the latter place. From Voi a strategic line branches off westwards towards Taveta, the scene of recent fighting.

Kilimanjaro  
peak, near  
Smuts  
at Kitovo





THE REGION IN WHICH GENERAL SMUTS PURSUED DEFEATED GERMAN FORCES: AFRICA'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN, KILIMANJARO.

Kilimanjaro was allotted to Germany when the Anglo-German boundary was settled in 1886. Its highest peak, named the Kaiser Wilhelm Spitze, reaches 19,321 feet. Near it the British forces under General Smuts recently won an important success. An official account of the 13th said: "While the engagement at Kitovo was proceeding, one of General Smuts's mounted brigades was engaged in clearing the foothills

north-east of Kilimanjaro of the enemy's forces, which had been cut off from their main body by the rapid British advance on March 8, 9 and 10." Later it was announced: "Our troops occupied Moshi on March 13. . . . Further evidence as to the severe defeat inflicted on the enemy . . . is still being received."—[Drawing by E. T. Compton; supplied by G. Philip and Son, Ltd.]





ANOTHER ENEMY AEROPLANE BROUGHT DOWN AT SALONIKA: THE TROPHY ON PUBLIC VIEW BY THE HARBOUR.

In the foreground of the above illustration, which gives an exceptionally interesting view of the sea-front and harbour of Salonika, another German aeroplane brought down in the neighbourhood by one of the French airmen is seen displayed as a trophy in the Gardens of the White Tower, after being paraded through the streets. It was vanquished in a mid-air duel and was badly damaged, coming down with

shot-holes in the propeller, body, and radiator. In the fall, in addition, one of the wings was seriously crippled. The enemy aviator proved to be an officer of the Prussian Guard Corps, attached to the aviation service. He was wounded during the encounter, but was alive when the Aviatik fell, dying from his injuries a short time afterwards.—[Photo. by Topical.]

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THE SALONIKA LINES BECOMING MORE AND MORE FORMIDABLE: BLUEJACKETS TAKING A BIG GUN TO ITS PLACE.

The difficulties confronting the enemy's army in the Balkans, should the German-Bulgarian forces eventually make a move to attack the Allied entrenched position, are becoming more and more formidable as time passes. That, of course, is owing to the ever-increasing strength of the defences, and the extremely powerful artillery that has been, and is being mounted on every commanding elevation

in the neighbourhood of the city. General Sarrail gives no chances. In previous issues we have shown several of the heavy guns of position, both British and French, on the way to the places where they were to be located. In the present illustration, an extremely hard-hitting and long-range British gun, in charge of a party of bluejackets, is seen en route to its firing-point.—[Photo. by Topical.]





ONE OF THE OUTLYING DEFENCES OF THE ALLIES AT SALONIKA: A FRENCH CAMP AMONG THE MARSHES OF THE VARDAR.

On every side of Salonika, landward and to a considerable distance north towards the Serbian and Macedonian frontier of Greece, the camps and entrenchments of the Allied troops, both French and British, extend over many miles. While formidable lines of entrenchments bar access to the valleys, and forts mounting heavy artillery crown every eminence of tactical importance against an attack from

the north, the wide-stretching, open, swampy plain which broadens out for miles on each side of the river Vardar is guarded by detachments of troops occupying hut camps such as the French camp seen in the above illustration. The Vardar, which traverses great part of Serbia, flows almost due south, finally entering the Aegean a few miles to the west of the city of Salonika.—[Photo. by Hoyer.]

The tract of  
west is most  
south-easterly  
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THE ALLIES' OUTPOST-GUARD BEYOND THE MAIN DEFENCES OF SALONIKA: KITCHEN-HUTS IN A FRENCH MARSH CAMP.

The tract of country which lies beyond the immediate vicinity of Salonika towards the north and north-west is mostly an open plain through which the river Vardar takes its way from the mountains of the south-eastern Serbian frontier to the sea. Wide stretches of grazing-ground occupy the greater part of the plain, with, on either side of the river, an expanse of marshland, a swamp for a great part of the

year, and often flooded in winter and early spring with the torrents of melted snow-water brought down by the Vardar from the Serbian mountains. Where roads cross the plain and marshes, the Allies keep detachments encamped on guard, quartered more or less in rough-and-ready fashion, the detachments being housed in huts built for the most part with materials available on the spot.—[Photo. by Boyer.]



## Little Lives of Great Men.

LXII.—GENERAL PÉTAÏN.

THE defender of Verdun and the heights of the Meuse was until the recent great action, a comparatively unknown man. Anonymity is the rule of the French Army in the present war, perhaps by a revulsion of feeling from the wild advertisement of 1870, when names were everything, and the men, too often, of no account. General Henri Philippe Pétain was at the beginning of the war a Colonel whose service was all but over. He was about to retire in the ordinary routine, but his abilities were well known, and too great to be lost to his country. In the retreat from Charleroi in August 1914 he behaved with pre-eminent distinction, and won rapid promotion. The course of the war has seen him, in rapid succession, at fifty-nine years of age, Brigadier-General, General of Division, Commander of an Army Corps, and now Army Commander. Last summer, during the Allied offensive in Artois, he played a brilliant part, and to him is due in very large measure the French success in Champagne. It was during the second phase of the attack on Verdun that he took direction of the operations on the heights of the Meuse, and his great efficiency was recognised by his being mentioned in the official report of M. Poincaré's visit to the Verdun line, when Pétain, together with the Generalissimo, formally received the President. Such official notice confers the highest distinction. Although within a year of sixty, General Pétain is extraordinarily youthful, and has all the dash and fire of a young man. Physically, he is fitness itself, and a firm believer in



GENERAL PÉTAÏN: DEFENDER OF VERDUN.

By Courtesy of the "Illustrated London News."

gymnastics. He does not disdain the skipping-rope as an athletic, and has been known to practise this means of agility before breakfast, to the annoyance of his neighbour in the flat below. He also runs, and recently headed a squad of recruits in a three-miles scamper over bad ground in Champagne. His Staff officers must be racing cyclists and champion runners, and he has made the training of troops for columns of assault a special study. In order to prepare the men for this work he recently persuaded the military authorities to give certain units several months' exemption from service in the trenches. The French soldier is naturally greatest in assault, but General Pétain has raised that gift to the highest power by definite training of wind and limb. Verdun has proved the soundness of his method, for the French have never shown to such advantage as in the recent counter-attacks, which have robbed the enemy of solid advantage. He is a soldier among his soldiers; and one of his intimate friends, a French politician, has said that you must look twice at General Pétain's uniform in order to discover that you are speaking to a General. He errs, if at all, on the side of personal recklessness, and exposes himself without regard for his own safety. He is also said to be somewhat too outspoken, but that is only characteristic of his courage and independence. From politics he stands entirely aloof. He drives furiously, and spent the fierce days and nights of Verdun on the seat of an auto-mitrailleuse, which was his headquarters. On the urgency of munition-work he made a memorable epigram: "Failure to supply one shell costs the lives of twenty men."

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THE WAR IN THE AIR AT SALONIKA: AN ALLIED SEAPLANE DESCENDING IN THE BAY AFTER A RECONNAISSANCE-FLIGHT.

Aircraft on both sides have had a considerable share in the operations at Salonika. The Allied machines have done good service both in reconnaissance work and in raiding enemy positions, while there have been several encounters in the air. The enemy, on their part, have made more than one raid, beside scouting flights, since that on December 30 which led to the arrest of the enemy Consuls. On February 1

a Zeppelin dropped 25 bombs on Salonika, but without damaging any military structure. The same day a German aeroplane was captured, and 14 French aeroplanes dropped over 180 bombs on Bulgarian positions. On February 17 Mr. G. Ward Price wrote: "One of the most modern types of German Aviatik biplanes was brought down by a French aeroplane at Karasuli."—[Photo. by Topical.]





**A SCENE SUGGESTIVE OF THE BUILDING OF THE PYRAMIDS!**  
The Army Service Corps has a colossal task in storing and distributing the supplies of food for the British troops at Salonika, and the piling of the boxes containing provisions suggests nothing so much as the building of the Pyramids, except that the free Britons who do the work hardly resemble the slaves of Pharaoh! In view of the magnitude of the task, it is hardly surprising that, in his account

**PILED BOXES OF BULLY BEEF AND BISCUITS AT SALONIKA.**

of the conversation at Floca's—Salonika's leading café—Mr. G. Ward Price describes how "a machine-gun officer confides his professional griefs to an A.S.C. officer, who relates in turn an involved story of troubles connected with cases of bully-beef and 'M. and V. rations,' indents and way-bills." Whatever be his vicissitudes, it is evident that the British Army at Salonika is well fed.—[Photo. by Topical.]

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FOR DEFENSIVE OR OFFENSIVE PURPOSES? HUGE SUPPLIES OF SHELLS COLLECTED AT A FRENCH ARTILLERY DEPÔT NEAR SALONIKA.

Success in modern war depends largely on munitions, and in this respect the French artillery at Salonika is not deficient. Discussing the prospects of the expedition recently, Mr. G. Ward Price wrote: "If there is no attack made against us in our present fortified position, and unless the chief command here is restricted by a contrary decision of the Allied War Council, it is more than probable that when this

force is ready we shall take the offensive. . . . In the first place an adequate supply of mountain artillery is required. . . . There is, of course, still a possibility that the enemy may choose to take the initiative and attack us here. Highly improbable as that may be, in view of the very elaborate works of defence . . . and of the heavy guns which are available . . . it is conceivable."—[*Editorial by Topical.*]





ON BOARD A KITE-BALLOON "MOTHER-SHIP": THE BALLOON OVERHEAD.

Kite-balloon ships have proved themselves among the most valuable of naval auxiliary vessels, in particular for the bombardment operations against the German batteries along the coast of Flanders. The ships are specially fitted out for the purposes of housing the balloons when not in service, and acting as receiving-stations for the messages the observers on high send down by telephone, and for



ON BOARD A KITE-BALLOON "MOTHER-SHIP": THE START OFF.

signalling reports to ships in action near by. As shown in the illustrations on this page and that facing, a roomy well, or deep aperture, in the ship's upper deck provides access to and egress from the main deck, where the balloon is stowed, and its envelope can be deflated and packed, to be rapidly inflated and go up as required. The kite-balloon is invaluable for its special work. Owing to the

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GOING UP TO "SPOT" OFF THE FLANDERS COAST: A KITE-BALLOON LEAVING ITS "MOTHER-SHIP."

*Continued.*

irregular surface of the sand-dunes along the Flanders coast, all hillocks or ridges of sand, a clear view is impossible from the moderate height of a war-ship's mast-head. Moored to the "mother-ship" at 600 feet elevation, the observers in the "basket" below the balloon gas-bag gain a range of view of nearly thirty miles, and see into every dip among the sand-hills and behind the ramparts of the German

batteries. Thus they can telephone the result of every shot from the attacking ships, and completely control the firing. The deadly accuracy of our monitors' fire, as admitted by the enemy, is entirely due to the kite-balloons. The kite-balloon was originally a German invention, experimented with at Kiel for the purposes our Navy is now putting it to.—[Official Press Bureau Photographs; supplied by Topical.]





**"PROUDER TO CALL OURSELVES AUSTRALIANS": MR. HUGHES, COMMONWEALTH PREMIER, ADDRESSING CONVALESCENT AUSTRALIANS.**  
 The Premier of Australia, the Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, who recently arrived in this country, inspected on the 14th convalescent Australian soldiers from Gallipoli and elsewhere at their headquarters in Horseferry Road, Westminster. With him were Mrs. Hughes, Mr. Andrew Fisher (High Commissioner for Australia), Brigadier-General Sir Newton Moore (Commanding the Australian depôts in England), and other officers. Addressing the men, Mr. Hughes said: "You have earned for yourselves a name which, in the history of the world, while men live to speak of these things, will never die. . . . But in the minds and hearts of your fellow-citizens of Australia you have done something much more. . . . We have been prouder to call ourselves Australians since you made a name for us in Gallipoli."—[Photo. by News. Illus.]





THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER'S CHARACTER: A MERRY PARTY OF MASQUERADERS AMUSING THEMSELVES WHILE OFF DUTY.

War does not consist wholly of battles, especially under modern conditions, when armies have to settle down for long months of comparative inaction in the trenches, or waiting in reserve until their turn comes to proceed to the front. During these periods of monotony the men naturally resort to various expedients to amuse themselves. Such relaxation plays an important part in keeping up their spirits,

and in all the belligerent armies opportunities of recreation are afforded. Thus, the troops at Salonika have had gymkhanas, with mule-races and other sports. Football, too, is played occasionally behind the Western lines, and various entertainments are held from time to time, ranging from concerts or regular plays in full costume, to simple free-and-easy "sing-songs."—[Photo. by Shubsky-Korsakoff.]





CASUAL MARAUDERS "NOMINALLY FIGHTING FOR THE TURK, BUT MOST UNCOMFORTABLE ALLIES": BEDOUIN ARABS

The small marauding bands of Arabs who hover about our forces in Mesopotamia are in no sense representative. Mr. Edmund Candler, the official correspondent, who calls them "frankly plunderers," says: "Nominally they are fighting for the Turk, but they are the most uncomfortable allies. They turn on their friends. . . . The Turks use them, but put no trust in them. That good sportsman, Saif Ullah, once commandant of the *pompier* brigade at Constantinople, expressed our mutual case against the Arab when he became our prisoner at Amara. 'It would be better,' he said, 'loot.' It should be explained in the picture the tribes of





LE ARABES": BEDOUIN ARABS, SCOUTING ON THE BANKS OF THE TIGRIS.—FROM THE DRAWING BY A. FORESTIER.

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would be better,' he said, 'if we could join hands and make an end of these scavengers. We could settle our own differences later. . . . The Arab . . . is not out for casualties, but  
loot.' It should be explained that what I have written has no reference to the Turkish cavalry, but to the Arabs alone, who form an irregular force. . . . Also, we must leave out of  
the picture the tribes of those settled and responsible Sheikhs of Koweit and Môhammerah, who are bound to us by mutual services and honourable tradition of good faith."





**SOLIDLY CONSTRUCTED WITH DUG-OUTS OF CONCRETE: A SECTION OF GERMAN TRENCHES RECENTLY CAPTURED BY THE BRITISH NEAR YPRES.**

A local British advance near Ypres was reported from General Headquarters in France on March 2. "This morning," the despatch stated, "we attacked and recaptured the trenches at the bluff on the Ypres-Comines Canal which we lost on February 14. In addition, our troops captured a small salient in the original line. A counter-attack launched by the enemy some hours later was repulsed. German mine-galleries in the captured trenches were destroyed. We have taken 180 prisoners, including 4 officers." A few days later, on March 5, it was stated in a Headquarters despatch that "the situation on the Ypres-Comines Canal is quiet, and our troops retain the ground gained on March 2." It has since been mentioned more than once in official reports that there has been considerable artillery

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GERMAN CASUALTIES AFTER A RECENT BRITISH ATTACK: BODIES OF GERMAN SOLDIERS IN A CAPTURED TRENCH NEAR YPRES.

*Continued.*

activity on both sides in the neighbourhood of Ypres. "Time was, a year ago," wrote Mr. Philip Gibbs from the British Headquarters the other day, "when our batteries were scattered rather thinly behind the lines and when our gunners had to be very thrifty of shells, saving them up anxiously for hours of great need. . . . That is ancient history. During the past eight months or so the fields have grown

a new crop of British batteries, and they are no longer thinly scattered. Our gunners never leave the enemy alone now. Apart from the concentrated bombardments of such a recent affair as the Bluff, the ordinary day's routine is quite active enough to keep the batteries busy."—[Official Photographs from General Headquarters. Crown copyright reserved. —Supplied by C.N.]





**ON THE VOSGES FRONT: ONE OF THE FRENCH AMBULANCE-STATIONS.**  
The French ambulance arrangements in the Vosges are as well-planned as elsewhere. Red Cross stations are established at central points in the woods, in localities mostly beyond reach of shells from the enemy, where good water is at hand, and to which access is easy for the stretcher-bearers from all parts of the neighbourhood.—[Official French Photograph; supplied by Newspaper Illustrations.]



**ON THE VOSGES FRONT: A FRENCH "220" HOWITZER IN ACTION.**  
In the Vosges the French are as well equipped with the artillery best suited for action among the forest-clad hills of the mountain-range as are their comrades at Verdun with hard-pounding, long-range, heavy pieces for the battle proceeding there. One of the Vosges howitzers for lobbing big shells over the tree-tops is seen above.—[Official French Photograph; per Newspaper Illustrations.]

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GERMAN PRISONERS TAKEN AT VERDUN: ONE OF THE BATCHES LINED UP IN A VILLAGE FOR GENERAL JOFFRE'S INSPECTION.

According to all the accounts, from letters by French officers and others who have been at Verdun since the great battle opened, as published in the Paris newspapers, the majority of the prisoners taken during the fighting are of a much poorer type than those taken in previous battles—those taken last September in Champagne, and before that, at the Marne—consisting largely of immature youths of

eighteen and nineteen, many of them of inferior physique. A French Army surgeon who measured and weighed several of the prisoners, taking them at random from batches before him, has reported the last-taken Germans as averaging 2 inches less in height than the average of the earlier prisoners, and as weighing, on the average, a stone per man less.—[Photo. by Alfieri.]





**EFFECTS OF FRENCH HEAVY GUNS NEAR VERDUN: REMAINS OF A CAPTURED GERMAN TRENCH WRECKED BY BOMBARDMENT.**

This photograph indicates that the enemy's artillery is not having things all its own way in the fighting round Verdun, and that the French heavy guns are equally capable of wrecking German positions, the bombardment being followed by effective counter-attacks by the French infantry. Thus, for example, an official communiqué issued in Paris on the 15th stated: "On our front between Béthincourt and Cumières

counter-attacks, with the bayonet and with grenades, enabled us to retake a portion of the elements of the trench occupied yesterday by the enemy towards Hill 265. We are holding Béthincourt, the height of Mort-Homme, the southern edge of the Bois de Cumières, and the village of Cumières. The bombardment continued intensely, and was energetically answered by our artillery."—[Photo. by Topical.]

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TRACKING A 6-INCH SHELL IN FLIGHT: A FRENCH GUNNER FOLLOWING WITH HIS EYE A LONG-RANGE SHOT.

"L'Héroïque" is the name of the French "155," or 6-inch, gun seen here, as chalked on its carriage, according to a custom prevalent among French artillerymen. The piece has just been fired at a high angle of elevation, under direction of an officer at an observation-post somewhere in advance, who telephones the requisite range instructions for each round to drop its shell well beyond direct view by

the gun-team working the gun. The artilleryman who has fired the shot is seen tracking the flight of the projectile along its curved trajectory, as he follows the black speck in mid-air with his eye. As will be noted from the position of the gun-barrel relative to its slide, the gun is shown while actually in the midst of its recoil.—[Photo. by C.N.]





**AT VERDUN: ONE OF THE REASONS FOR GENERAL PÉTAINE'S CONFIDENCE—BATTERIES BEING HELD BACK IN RESERVE.**

"The load is now off my mind and I am certain of final success." General Pétaïne, defender of Verdun, is stated to have used these words on parting from two French Deputies who had been visiting the front on a special mission from the Army Committee of the Chamber. The General's words were quoted by the Deputies on their return to the Chamber in Paris on March 14. We see in the illustration above one very good reason to give General Pétaïne confidence—French artillery batteries held in reserve. All through the weeks of battle at Verdun, strong reinforcements of artillery, well supplied with fresh ammunition, have been kept in waiting close in rear of the fortress-lines, ready when called for, at a moment's notice, to take their places in the firing-line. Some have not yet been called upon.

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THE BENEVOLENT WORK OF THE GRAND DUCHESS TATIANA OF RUSSIA: IN A REFUGEE SETTLEMENT OF THE TATIANA COMMITTEE.

The Empress of Russia and their Imperial Highnesses her daughters have been indefatigable in their ministrations to the wounded and the suffering from the commencement of the war, and our photograph shows the interior of a Refugee Settlement building, under the auspices of the Tatiana Committee. H.I.H. the Grand Duchess Tatiana is the eighteen-year-old daughter of the Emperor. Mr. John Foster

Fraser says in his "Russia of To-day": "The idea of helping the distant war-sufferers came from the Grand Duchess Tatiana . . . the Russians adore her. When she started her fund to find bread and clothing for the people of Poland, it was like the waving of a fairy wand." The appointments of the building shown are simple, but leave nothing to be desired.—[Photo. by Underwood and Underwood.]





**FRENCH EFFICIENCY IN MOTOR-TRANSPORT: A CONVOY OF MOTOR-WAGGONS ON THEIR WAY TO THE FRONT WITH MUNITIONS.**

At this stage of the war the Allies are in a much better position than at first with regard to munitions. The French alone have prepared immense quantities of projectiles of every calibre, and have organised a wonderful service of road transport for conveying them to the front. In approaching the zone of operations near Verdun, for example, Lord Northcliffe was greatly impressed by what he saw. "As

one gets nearer and nearer the great arena on which the whole world's eyes are turned to-day," he writes, "proofs of French efficiency and French thoroughness are countless. . . . The abundance of reserve shells for guns, from mighty howitzers to the graceful French mitrailleuse of the aeroplane, rifle ammunition, petrol stores, motor-waggons of every description, was remarkable. . . . As night falls we

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**SUPPLIES OF FRENCH HEAVY SHELLS ON THEIR WAY TO THE FIRING-LINE: MOTOR AMMUNITION-WAGGONS ON THE ROAD.**

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come across our first convoy of the great hooded motor-lorries, which my companion counted by the thousand while we were on our way between Paris and the Meuse. The war has reduced motor-transport to a science, and in no way is French efficiency better demonstrated than in the manner in which they have added to the carrying capacity of their railways and great canals. They have utilised

thousands of miles of poplar and lime-lined roads for mechanical transport at fifteen miles an hour. On one road alone we counted twenty motor-convoys, each composed of about one hundred waggons, and each group indicated by some simple mark, such as a four-leaved shamrock, an ace of hearts, or a comet."—[Official Photographs by the Photographic Section of the French Army.]





**AT VERDUN: AN UNEXPLODED GERMAN SHELL ENCLOSED IN WIRE NETTING TO PREVENT ACCIDENT TO FRENCH SOLDIERS.**

In the stress of the day-and-night German bombardment at Verdun, the French have no opportunities for digging up, or rendering harmless, the German shells which fall behind the trenches and do not explode. These have to be left where they fall, becoming thus death-traps—like land-mines—for soldiers who, unaware of their existence, have to pass over the ground after dark. In order to prevent such

accidents, it has become necessary to take special precautions in the way of marking the places where the German shells are lying, and in some instances, as shown in the illustration, to fence them round with wire netting, it being impracticable, for obvious reasons, to place warning lights thereabouts.—  
[Photo. by Illustrations Bureau.]

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AT VERDUN—WORK THAT HAS TO GO ON CONTINUALLY: FRENCH SOLDIERS GOING OUT TO RENEW THE WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS.

Under the continuous bombardment with heavy high-explosive shells that is going on at Verdun, the barbed-wire entanglements along the front of the French trenches are swept away wholesale in places, and have to be renewed at frequent intervals. The task of replacement has become practically a routine duty among the troops in the French fire-trenches, and squads carrying coils of fresh barbed wire and

stakes to fix the network on, are employed at all hours. In view of the persistent German infantry attacks, the risk of leaving gaps for long without a barbed-wire barrier cannot be taken. One of the renewal-parties engaged in this important and dangerous work is seen above making its way along a shell-battered trench.—[Photo. by Illustrations Bureau.]





**THE ENEMY'S RED CROSS SERVICE: AUSTRIAN MOTOR-DRAWN ROAD-AMBULANCES; AND INTERIOR ARRANGEMENTS IN A HOSPITAL-TRAIN.**

The Red Cross ambulance-train services in all the armies of the belligerent Powers are organised in essentials on one standard pattern, modelled in accordance with the general regulations laid down under the International Geneva Convention. Thus, in the main, they resemble one another. In the above photographs are seen some of the arrangements of the Austrian Red Cross service on the Galician front.

No. 1 shows motor-drawn ambulance-waggons for road service, fitted with pneumatic tyres to avoid jolting, and of a pattern for travelling coupled together. When standing separately, steel supports underneath the vehicle keep it horizontal. No. 2 shows the medical staff dining-compartment in a Red Cross train. No. 3 is the operating-ward; and No. 4 the kitchen-car, where meals are prepared.

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ONE OF THE RUSES ADOPTED IN THE SERBIAN CAMPAIGN, TO DELAY THE ENEMY: A DUMMY HEAVY GUN IN POSITION.

Dummy guns mounted to deceive, and, if possible, delay, an enemy before a weakly-held position or one not occupied at all, are, of course, a time-honoured trick in land-warfare. At sea, in old days, many of our sailing merchantmen went about so "armed," in war; and the sight of the protruding muzzles of the "Quakers," as the dummies were called with a sarcastic reference to the "Conscientious

Objector" of the times of our ancestors, are recorded to have saved themselves and their cargoes from enemy privateers. In earlier issues, illustrations have been given of dummy guns being used on land, singly or in batteries, by both French and British on the Western Front, to mislead enemy airmen as to the existence or position of genuine guns.





WITH THE ENEMY FACING THE ITALIANS IN THE ALPS: AN AUSTRIAN 35.5-CM. HOWITZER IN ACTION.

As a set-off to the heavy artillery the Italians are using so successfully in their attacks on the Austrian Alpine forts, the Austrians have brought forward into line in several places a number of their heavier guns and howitzers. The 17-inch howitzers of Liège and Namur fame are limited in numbers and too cumbersome for the sort of work required—the shelling of troops more or less in the open and on the

move. It has been stated, also, that all have been sent to the attack on Verdun. A hardly less dangerous howitzer is being employed on the Italian front—the 35.5-cm., or 14-inch, howitzer, firing a projectile of half a ton in weight, another of the specialties of the Skoda Gun Factory, Krupps' Austrian counterpart.—[Photo. by Topical.]

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AT SALONIKA—A FIELD-HOSPITAL REHEARSAL FOR THE DAY OF BATTLE: THE TRANSPORT OF LESS SEVERELY WOUNDED MEN IN MULE CACOLETS.

The general position of affairs with the Allied army at Salonika is, in some ways, not dissimilar to that which has prevailed ever since the war began on board ship in the Grand Fleet. A state of continuous preparation and constant rehearsal to meet all the circumstances of action is the order of the day alike with the soldiers in the Salonika camps and with Sir John Jellicoe's men in the North Sea. Every

detail to cope with emergencies is being seen to in advance; every battle-day arrangement is practically tested beforehand. One of the Salonika preparatory rehearsals of a method to be employed in transporting less severely wounded cases in cacolets or double mule-panniers—the entire pannier apparatus weighs upwards of 56 lb.—is here seen taking place.—[Official Press Bureau Photograph; supplied by Alberi.]





DRINKING-WATER FOR THE MEN IN THE TRENCHES: ONE OF THE FRENCH WATER-SUPPLY TRAINS WAITING ON A LIGHT RAILWAY.

Supplying drinking-water to the men in the trenches is a work that has required special organisation, and regular consignments of casks are forwarded at intervals as opportunity offers. The casks are filled at watering-depôts established some distance in rear of the lines, whence they are sent forward as required, in several places on the French front, by means of the light railways which also carry

provisions to the same destination, as shown in the above illustration. The organisation of an adequate water-supply service to meet the daily requirements of the armies along the French front, numbering hundreds of thousands of men and thousands of horses, has been a complex task beyond the capacity of local resources, in regard to which probably few people realise the difficulties.—[Photo. by C.N.]

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FRANCE'S IDEAL WEAPON FOR FIRING HEAVY SHELLS IN FOREST-FIGHTING: A 220-MM. HOWITZER POSTED IN A WOOD.

For heavy artillery work in densely wooded hill-tracts such as in the Vosges, no better weapon exists than the French 220 mm.—or 9-inch howitzer—such as that seen above in position. Its exact whereabouts concealed among the trees and almost impossible for an enemy aeroplane to spot except by flying too dangerously low, the "220" sends its 270-lb. shells over the tree-tops, normally with an angle of

elevation of 40 degrees, being laid to bombard enemy positions according to the map; the firing being checked from observation-posts in advance elsewhere by messages telephoned between rounds to the firing-point. In addition to their heavier pieces, the French in the Vosges have at disposal light mountain artillery.—[Official French War Office Photograph; supplied by News. Illus.]





HEROIC ZOUAVES NEAR VERDUN: PART OF A COMPANY HOLDING AN ADVANCED FRENCH POSITION IN THE BOIS DES CAURES.

The Zouaves have fought heroically in the great battle of Verdun, as elsewhere during the war. These photographs were taken on February 24 in the Bois des Caures, a wood about seven miles due north of Verdun, during a lull between the German night attacks and those of the day. The description accompanying the photographs says: "These Zouaves, who had arrived on the previous evening to rein-

force a much-tried infantry regiment, resisted repeated attacks in the night. In the morning they profited by a lull to dig individual shelters, as in the period of the war before the construction of permanent trenches. After the enemy's occupation of Beaumont, they were almost surrounded. Under machine-gun fire from all sides, they yet succeeded in holding on throughout the day of the 24th and

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ZOUAVES WHO HELD THE BOIS DES CAURES FOR NEARLY A DAY AND A NIGHT: DIGGING SHELTERS DURING A LULL.

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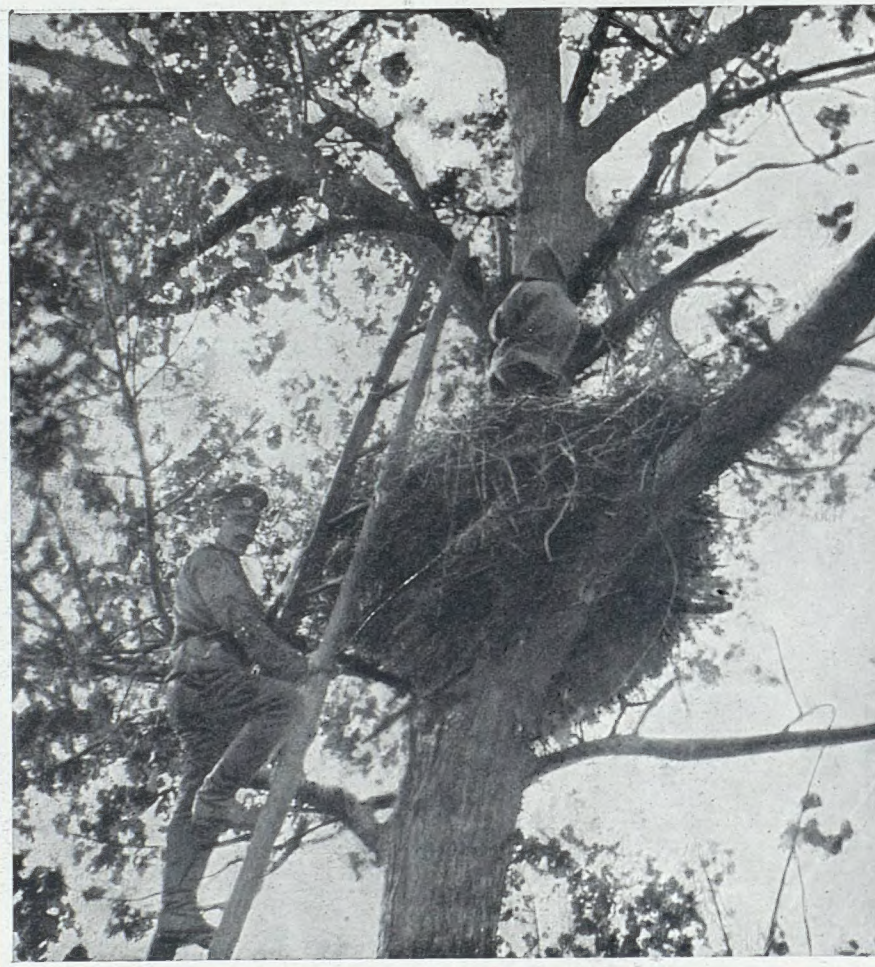
It was only at 3 a.m. (on the 25th) that they received the order to rejoin the French lines, which had been withdrawn a mile and a quarter southward. The column slipped away, one by one. 'At 4 a.m.,' wrote a wounded officer, 'we arrived among our comrades, but much lessened in numbers; at 10 o'clock we set out again for the firing-line.' A French communiqué of the 25th

stated: "Another attack, delivered by at least one brigade, launched against the Bois des Caures, enabled the enemy to recapture from us a part of the wood, of which we at present hold the southern salient." It was reported later that French Colonial troops, by a counter-attack, recaptured some of the ground lost at the Bois des Caures.

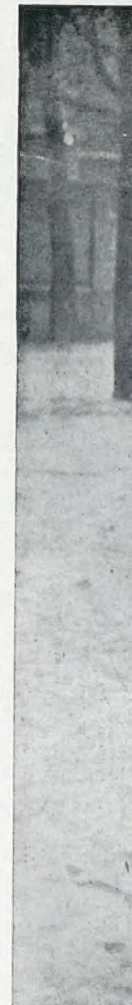




A SENTRY CLOAKED IN STRAW—AS SEEN ON THE GERMAN FRONT. One of the quaintest examples of German military ingenuity is shown in the illustration, which is reproduced from a German newspaper. The use of straw—apparently from the casings of wine-bottles, in the present instance—as a material for a winter sentry's cloak is an experiment hardlyprecedented.



A SNIPER'S "NEST"—USED BY THE RUSSIANS ON THE EASTERN FRONT. No means of concealment comes amiss to the sniper when selecting his quarters, whether on the ground or above ground. The illustration here reproduces a Russian photograph, from the Eastern front, of one of the methods found suitable on the fringe of one of the copses of sparse woodland which extend over wide tracts in the districts along the Lithuanian border and throughout Western Russia generally.



THE "Ski Brigades" front at the Eastern European Lettish franc-t-





THE GERMAN "SKI BRIGADES" ON THE EASTERN FRONT: ONE OF THE DETACHMENTS IN THE LIGHT UNIFORMS WORN ON SERVICE.

"Ski Brigades," as they are generally called by the enemy, were organised for outpost duty on the Eastern front at the end of last autumn. They have been largely employed during the now passing winter in Eastern Europe, and have had continuous encounters with the Russian light corps of "volunteers" and Lettish franc-tireur peasant bands whose activities on the prowl round the German advanced posts are

said to have proved an incessant source of serious worry to Marshal Hindenburg's men. The "Ski Brigade" units are composed mostly of picked detachments, from East and West Prussian regiments formerly belonging to the 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, and 17th German Army Corps, which were garrisoning Eastern German provinces, and trained to snow manoeuvres as part of winter drill routine.—[Photo. by Bain.]





TO PAVE THE WAY FOR THE GUNS: FRENCH MOTOR TRANSPORT OF LOGS FOR CONSTRUCTING ROADS FOR ARTILLERY NEAR VERDUN.

The great struggle round Verdun has been largely a conflict of artillery, and the French defence was made possible by the fact that they were able to oppose to the German bombardments an equally destructive volume of shell-fire. While the Germans deployed an enormous number of guns to batter down the French defences, the French guns replied with shattering effect and caused immense losses

among the German infantry whenever they attempted to advance. In order to bring up their guns quickly to the positions where they were required, the French engineers constructed a network of light railways, and roads of logs. Two French Deputies who were sent from Paris to inspect the transport services at Verdun, both by motor and rail, reported that they were highly efficient.—[Photo. by Topical.]